



# GREENE COUNTY DEVELOPMENT

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*COMMITTED TO GROWTH*

## Greene County Department of Development

61 Greene Street, 1st Floor

Xenia, OH 45385

937-562-5007

<http://greenecountydod.org/>

# GREENE COUNTY

ANNUAL REPORT  
TO THE COMMUNITY

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PRESENTED BY

THE GREENE COUNTY COMMUNITY  
IMPROVEMENT CORPORATION

AND

THE GREENE COUNTY BOARD OF  
COMMISSIONERS



FRIDAY, APRIL 20, 2018



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Fair Housing laws protect your right to seek housing anywhere you can afford to live. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) enforces the Fair Housing Act at the national level.

The Fair Housing Act protects you against violations of your housing rights and prohibits discrimination in housing on the basis of:

- Ancestry (Ohio law)
- Color
- Disability
- Familial status
- National origin
- Race
- Religion
- Sex

The Greene County Department of Development strives to educate the public regularly on Fair Housing and landlord/tenant issues. Education efforts include:

- Sharing printed material at various publicly accessible locations
- Providing monthly/quarterly training sessions at various local service agencies
- Collaborating with local municipalities on services available to residents
- Celebrating Fair Housing Month (April)

If you have any questions, inquiries, and/or training needs related to Fair Housing, please contact the Greene County Fair Housing Coordinator at 937-562-5350.

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**Greene County Board of Commissioners**

Tom Koogler, President

Alan Anderson, Vice President

Bob Glaser, Commissioner

Brandon Huddleson, County Administrator

**Greene County Community Improvement Corporation**

John Finlay, President

Joe Harkleroad, Vice President

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Bob Glaser	Bart Sheridan
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## 2017 Department of Development

### Accomplishments

- The Greene County Department of Development expanded partnerships between County and community stakeholders, including Clark State University, Wright State University, Ohio University, Kettering Health Network, Area Chambers of Commerce, and Wright Patterson Air Force Base.
- The Greene Regional Business Park earned “shovel-ready” status with the SiteOhio program, making it much more attractive to prospective businesses.
- The Greene County Community Improvement Corporation (CIC) awarded Resonant Sciences LLC a \$100,000 Economic Development Incentive Program (EDIP) Grant for the purchase of specialized equipment. This equipment allows Resonant to accept more contracts and hire more engineers.
- The Greene County CIC awarded a \$75,000 EDIP Grant to Orbital ATK, who pledged to add 57 employees (engineers and technicians), generating a total payroll of \$3.5 million by December 2019. Orbital ATK will also increase the size of its Beavercreek facility by 40,000 square feet with over \$3M in capital improvements.

The Haunted Classic soccer tournament, the largest tournament in the Miami Valley for 2017, brought in a record 550 teams for their event in October with 31,500 spectators. The annual event, held at the John Ankeney Soccer Complex in Beavercreek, generates an estimated \$5 million dollars each year. The Dayton Hamvention® held its first annual event at the Greene County Fairgrounds and Expo Center with tremendous success bringing in nearly 30,000 visitors from all over the world. 2017 marked the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the US Air Force which brought in some special military personnel and veterans. These special sporting events, reunions, and association conventions have generated approximately 50,980 room nights for 2017 through the GCCVB sales staff. All hotel sales combined resulted in lodging revenue of \$1,110,011 which is 10% over 2016. An example of just some of the great events are listed below.

#### 2017 Greene County CVB Group Business

- Dayton Hamvention® - 9000 room nights
- 2016 Air Force Marathon - 3000 room nights
- Haunted Classic Soccer Tournament – 3200 room nights
- CUSA Mead Soccer Cup – 1000 room nights
- Winterguard International World Championships – 3200 room nights
- Creek Classic Soccer Tournament – 1400 room nights
- TransAm Nationals Convention – 800 room nights
- Military Reunions – 8000 room nights
- Other Events – 21300 room nights

## Convention & Visitors Bureau



Rare is the destination that provides activities at every turn, and yet, never hems you in. But here, in the rolling hills of *Greene County, Ohio* is a destination so free with itself, it defies conventional definitions. Instead, it is a diverse mix of attitudes and adjectives: laid-back,

creative, friendly, beautiful, agricultural, energy, flight, freedom, tradition, and spirit. And while it may have a structured side, it's never routine.

The Greene County Convention and Visitors Bureau (GCCVB) continues to work diligently to bring visitors, events, and recognition to Greene County. They encourage those who live and work in Greene County to get out and enjoy the attractions and events that are going on right outside your door. Executive Director Kathleen Wright and her staff work hard to bring in more group events and leisure travelers each year. In 2017 the GCCVB continued to grow and increase attendance in major sporting events, military reunions, and special groups who sought to take advantage of what Greene County has to offer their groups by way of excellent accommodations, attractions, and friendly, helpful service. The GCCVB supported the Air Force Marathon, which was once again one of the most successful events in the region resulting in an estimated economic impact of nearly \$8.5 million dollars across the region. GCCVB hosted over forty military reunions from March through mid-November in 2017 resulting in approximately 8,000 room nights from this market alone. The Trans Am Nationals hosted their annual car show in Greene County for the fourth year with increased attendance.

### Continued

- The Greene County Port Authority supported projects such as the Recreation, Education, Activity, Community and Health (REACH) initiative, the Greene County Combined Health District, and the Greene County Foundation through bond-financing options that provided a combined savings of \$2,038,247 versus traditional financing.
- The Department of Development utilized Community Housing Impact and Preservation (CHIP) Funds to rehabilitate 6 County households. In addition, CHIP programming allowed the County to assist with the repair of 21 households.
- The Greene County Department of Development assisted 81 households with Fair Housing complaints.
- The Greene County Department of Development completed community improvement projects totaling \$146,000 through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program.

## Beavercreek High School Boys Soccer Team



The Beavercreek High School Boys Soccer Team won the **2017 Division I State Championship** with a season record of 22-0-2. Beavercreek defeated Medina on November 11, 2017, in an overtime win, securing the Division I Boys Title. The team ended the season having scored over 100 goals while only allowing 14 goals. The team also received many accolades during the season:

- Voted number 1 in the Miami Valley Coaches Poll
- Voted number 2 in the state by Ohio Scholastic Soccer Coaches Association (OSSCA)
- Received a Top 10 national team trophy by Max Preps, which is only presented to the Top 10 teams in the nation
- Rated number 5 by USA Today Sports in super 25 expert national rankings
- Rated number 5 national ranking by United Soccer Coaches

John Guiliano has coached the team for 32 years with 29 of those years at the varsity level. Jason Guiliano has been the assistant coach for the last 19 years. Coach Guiliano received the GWOC National League East Coach of the year. He reached 413 wins and tied for fifth on the all-time state coaching list.

## Local Economic Development Specialists

**Amanda Byers/President/CEO**, Beavercreek Chamber of Commerce

937-426-2202 / [amanda@beavercreekchamber.org](mailto:amanda@beavercreekchamber.org)

**Chris Ewing, Executive Director**, Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Chamber of Commerce

937-848-4930 / [info@bellbrook-sugarcreekchamber.com](mailto:info@bellbrook-sugarcreekchamber.com)

**Ken Wagner, President**, Cedarville Chamber of Commerce

937-766-5418 / [cedarvillechamber@yahoo.com](mailto:cedarvillechamber@yahoo.com)

**Matt Owen, Executive Director**, Fairborn Chamber of Commerce

937-878-3191 / [chamber@fairborn.com](mailto:chamber@fairborn.com)

**Jeff McGrath, Director of Planning & Zoning**, City of Beavercreek

937-427-5512 / [mcgrath@ci.beavercreek.oh.us](mailto:mcgrath@ci.beavercreek.oh.us)

**Michael Gebhart, Economic Development Director**, City of Fairborn

937-754-3056 / [michael.gebhart@ci.fairborn.oh.us](mailto:michael.gebhart@ci.fairborn.oh.us)

**Eric Henry, ED Program Manager**, Dept. of Development, Greene County

937-562-5351 / [ehenry@co.greene.oh.us](mailto:ehenry@co.greene.oh.us)

**Alan Liming, President**, Xenia Area Chamber of Commerce

937-372-3591 / [alan@xacc.com](mailto:alan@xacc.com)

**Steve Brodsky, Director of Development**, City of Xenia

937-372-7943 / [sbrodsky@ci.xenia.oh.us](mailto:sbrodsky@ci.xenia.oh.us)

**Karen Wintrow, Executive Director**, Yellow Springs Chamber of Commerce

937-767-2686 / [kwintrow@yellowspringsohio.org](mailto:kwintrow@yellowspringsohio.org)

## Businesses With Momentum

Matrix Research, Inc.	Altamira Technologies Corp.
Unison Industries, LLC	Ball Aerospace
General Dynamics	Ali Industries, Inc.
MacCaulay-Brown	The Design Knowledge Company
Woolpert, Inc.	Twist Incorporated
Sumaria Systems, Inc.	CIL Isotope Separations, LLC
Infoscitex Corporation	SAS Automation, LLC
Orbital ATK, Inc.	Superion, Inc.
Resonant Sciences	Reptiles by Mack
Peerless Technologies Corporation	Bob Evans Farms
Science Applications International Corp.	YSI Xylem
Universal Technology Corporation	Yellow Springs Brewery
G.A. White Homes, Inc.	Tecumseh Land Trust
Ryan Homes	Electroshield
Applied Optimization, Inc.	Sunrise Café/Calypso Grill & Smokehouse
Tangible Solutions	

## Ryan Bernt



Ryan Bernt, a senior at Beavercreek High School, received **All American Honors** in Soccer in 2017. Ryan's notable accomplishments this year in soccer include the following:

- All American
- MVSSCA Player of the Year
- GWOC National League East Division Player of the Year
- GWOC National League First Team (team award)
- All-Conference, East Division Athlete of the Year
- MVSSCA DIV 1 All Dayton South Recognition First Team (team award)
- All Dayton District Team (team award)
- OSSCA State Team Recognition (team award)
- GWOC Academic
- 2017 Division I State Champions (team award)

In addition to Ryan's many accomplishments on the soccer field, he is also committed to maintaining a 3.5 GPA. Ryan has signed to play college soccer for Purdue University where he is interested in pursuing a degree in Mechanical Engineering.



## Wright-Patt Credit Union



MONEY Magazine, which is a publication of Time Inc., named Wright-Patt Credit Union (WPCU) the **Best Bank in Ohio 2017-2018**. MONEY Magazine ranked WPCU as part of its Best "Bank" in Every State November issue. MONEY evaluated data on fees, interest rates, and account requirements for checking and savings accounts. MONEY chose WPCU as the best bank in Ohio based on the following features:

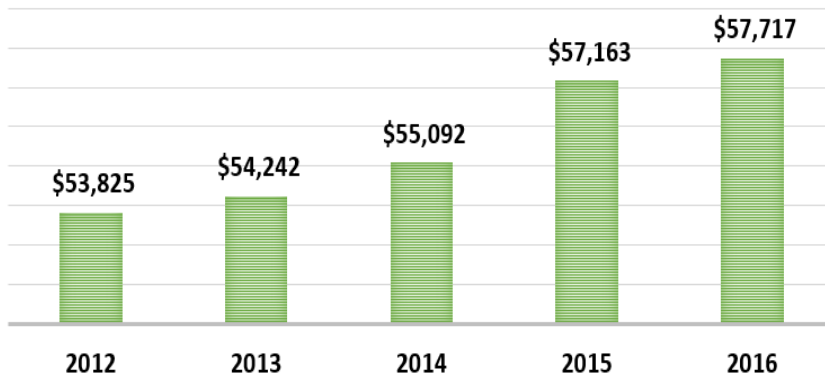
- Offers a checking account with no monthly fee
- Provides access to at least two free out-of-network ATM transactions per month
- Operates 340 Co-Op branches in the state of Ohio
- Offers a Mobile App with a second place national ranking by MagnifyMoney

Headquartered in Beavercreek, WPCU was established in 1932 as a member-owned, not-for-profit financial cooperative serving Central and Southwest Ohio. WPCU encompasses 349,000 members, \$3.8 billion in assets, and 31 Member Centers, which makes them the largest credit union in the Miami Valley. The credit union was founded on a "people helping people" philosophy, and their mission is to help people through life by allowing members to achieve a greater degree of economic independence.



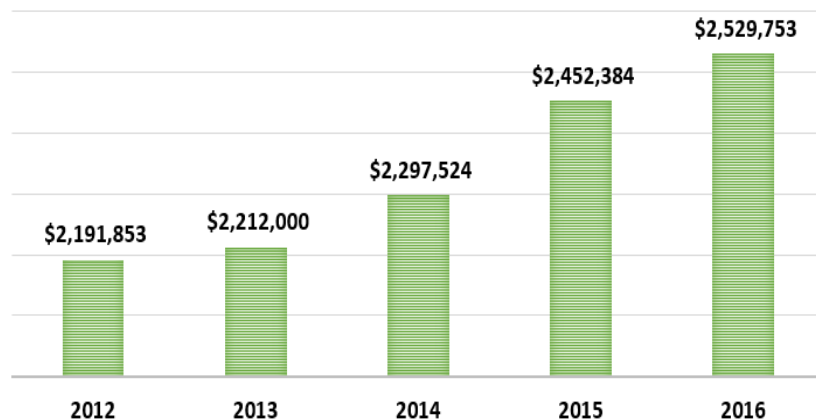


### AVERAGE ANNUAL EMPLOYMENT COVERED UNDER THE OHIO UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION LAW FOR GREENE COUNTY



DATA PROVIDED BY THE BUREAU LABOR MARKET INFORMATION STATE OF OHIO

### TOTAL WAGES (IN THOUSANDS) COVERED UNDER THE OHIO UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION LAW FOR GREENE COUNTY\*



DATA PROVIDED BY THE BUREAU LABOR MARKET INFORMATION STATE OF OHIO

\*Figures do not include federal, state, and local government or public education employees

### John Ankeney

John Ankeney of Beavercreek was named the **2017 Administrator of the Year** by US Youth Soccer at their Awards Gala in Philadelphia. This award honors the extraordinary accomplishments in soccer administration over a person's career. John was instrumental in the formation of the Beavercreek Soccer Association (BSA) in 1975. The BSA supports 2,500 players across 74 competitive teams and 100 recreational teams. BSA players live in over 50 different towns and cities in the Ohio South region. John's expertise helped in the development and management of the John Ankeney Soccer Complex at 505 South Orchard Lane, Beavercreek, Ohio. This complex totals 80 acres with capacity for 22 full-sized soccer fields. It is the home of the Beavercreek Soccer Association (BSA) and regularly supports soccer matches for the BSA Recreational League, the BSA Celtic, and Ohio Galaxies competitive teams. It is also the home of the BSA's Creek Classic and Haunted Classic Soccer Tournaments as well as many other statewide, regional, and national tournaments. The John Ankeney Soccer Complex was named one of the top sports facilities in America by Sports Management Magazine. John has dedicated countless hours to the game of soccer throughout his career. He has coached every level including recreation, competitive club, high school teams, and adult leagues as well as providing soccer opportunities for disadvantaged youth.

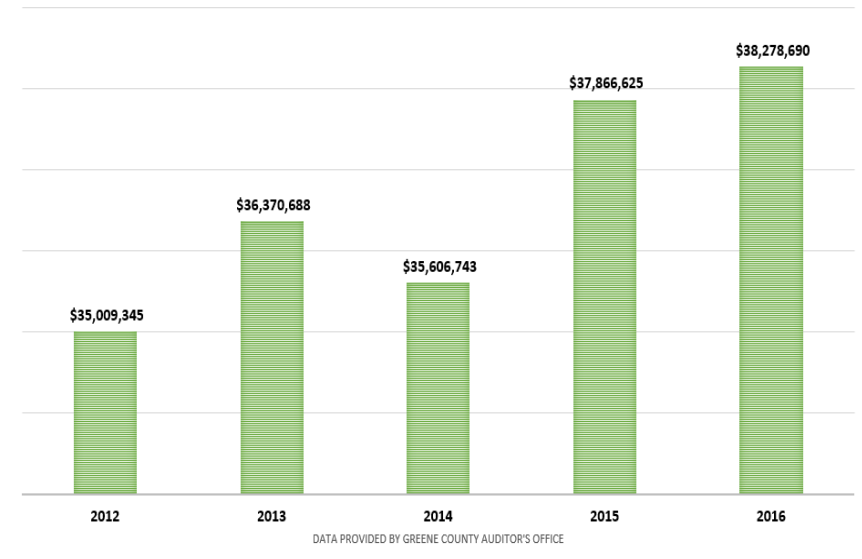


## Maya Stutzman

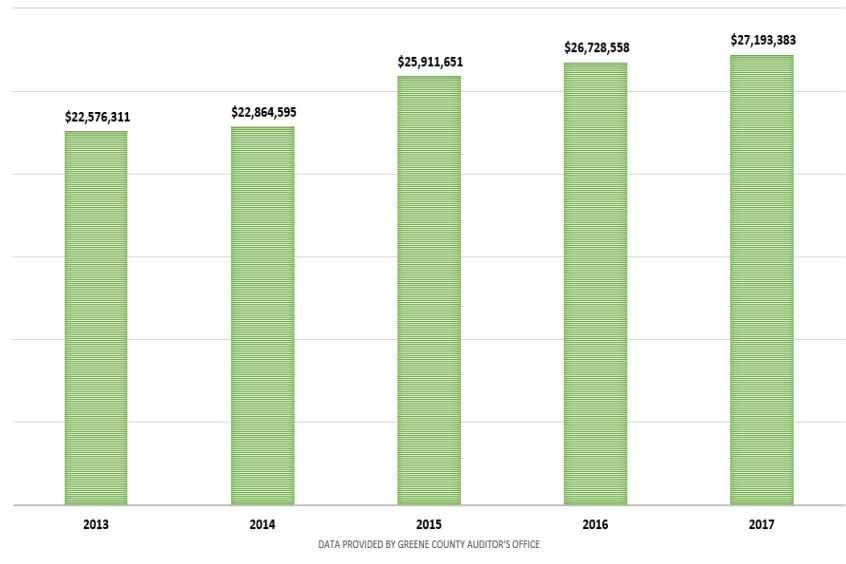
Maya Stutzman, the Web Content Manager of the Greene County Public Library, won national recognition from the American Library Association for her video promoting the library's "Food for Fines Program." The **"Food for Fines"** video won in the **Special Programs/Exhibits** category for the Public Relations (PR) Xchange Awards, which recognizes the best PR materials produced by a library in 2017. Over 390 entries were submitted from over 100 institutions, including public, academic, school, state, and special libraries. Winning awards is a routine matter for Maya, who also won two awards for her video work last year. The "Food for Fines" video demonstrated how the library gives you a chance to make your fines disappear while keeping the shelves of local food banks well-stocked during one particular week of the year. You can also pay it forward by bringing a food bank donation to your local library. Each item you donate will give another library patron the chance to have their overdue fines reduced. The library will forgive \$1 of your library fines for each item you donate.



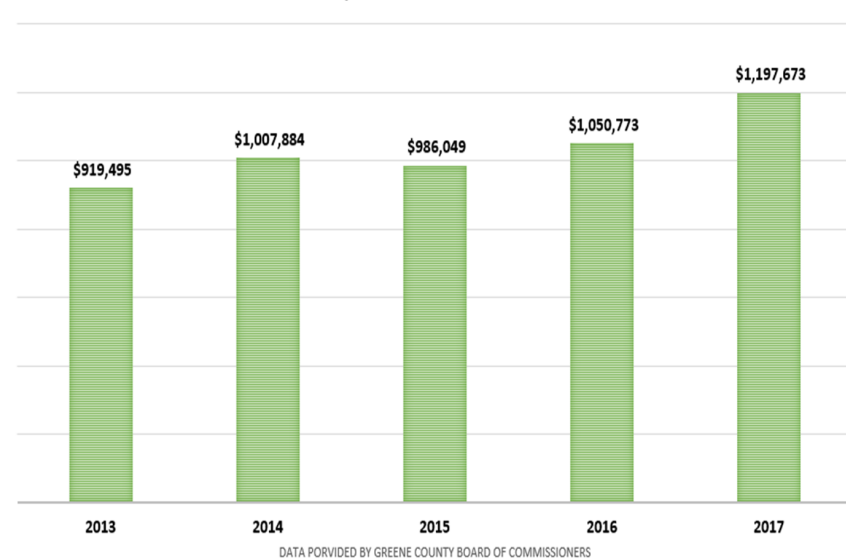
## GENERAL PROPERTY TAX COLLECTED



## COUNTY SALES TAX COLLECTED



## HOTEL/MOTEL TAX COLLECTED



## Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Park District



The Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Park District won the seventh annual **Governor's Award for Parks and Recreation**, given by the Ohio Parks and Recreation Association (OPRA). The district won the award for its "River Friendly Parking Lot" project. Woodlands, the Little Miami River, and wetlands surround the Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Park District's headquarters. Runoff from the headquarters parking lot flowed directly into the Little Miami River, and the park district recognized the need for change to demonstrate the area as a steward of the environment. The project components were designed to work together to filter rainwater that flows from the parking lot. The environmental elements incorporated include: a rain garden, bio-swale, permeable pavers, new pavement, oil interceptor and trench drain, and more than 1,000 native perennial plants from 12 different species. The Park District is dedicated to providing and maintaining facilities for the recreational needs of their community and providing a variety of programs and special events. The Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Park District currently owns 17 parks totaling nearly 700 acres and is led by Director Jeff Stewart.

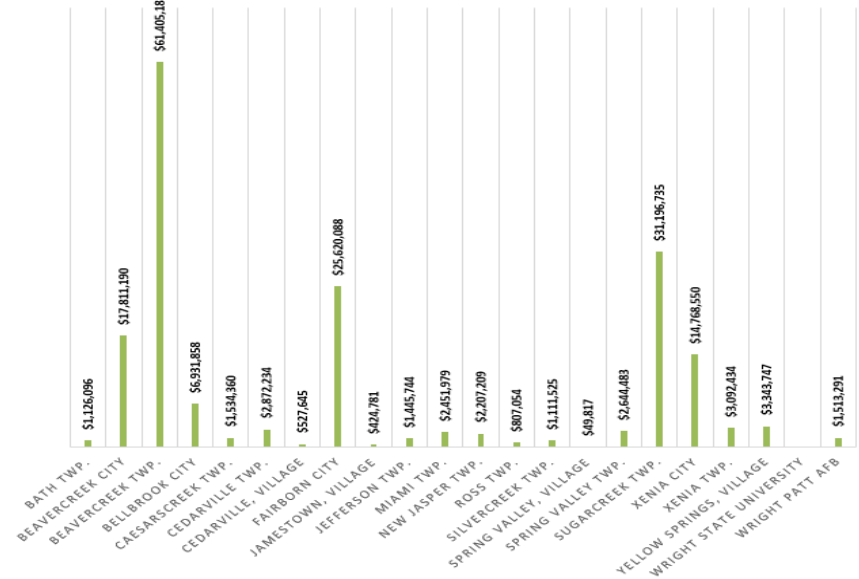
## Johnnie Burns



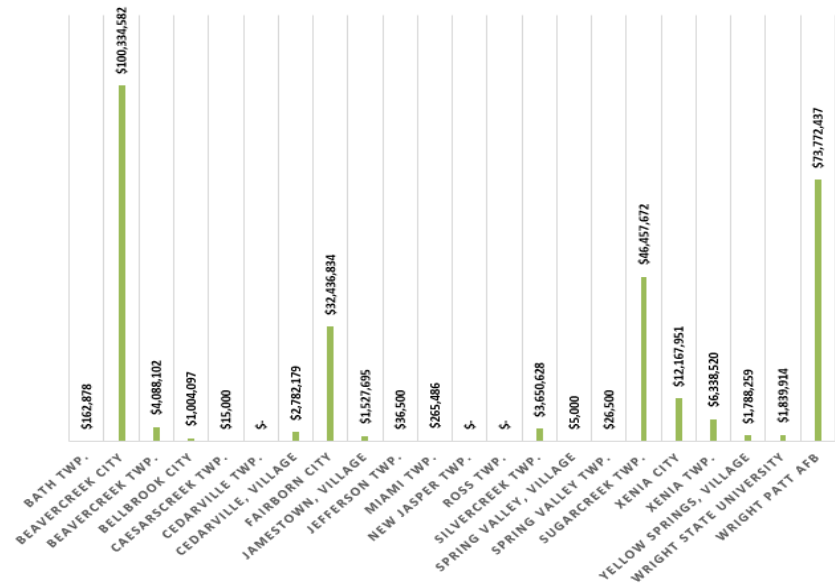
Yellow Springs Electric Superintendent and Xenia resident Johnnie Burns received the **Larry Hobart Seven Hats Award** at the American Public Power Association's National Conference. This award recognizes managers of small utilities serving fewer than 2,500 meters because they have limited staff and must therefore assume multiple roles. The seven hats these managers wear include planning design, administration, public relations, field supervision,

accounting, human resources, and community leadership. Johnnie won at the state level, which automatically made him eligible for the National level. In Yellow Springs, Johnnie works on both the electric and water distribution systems with a hands-on approach that brings him into the field daily with his crews. Colleagues describe Johnnie as "the perfect definition of a working superintendent." Johnnie is often right alongside his team setting poles, climbing poles, and flagging traffic, as well as administering the electric utility budget totaling \$4.5 million. Johnnie simultaneously promotes positive community relations and responds to citizen concerns for the Village of Yellow Springs. Johnnie's dedication and positive attitude toward both his staff and the community make him a remarkable superintendent and quite deserving of the Seven Hats Award.

### 2017 RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION TOTALS



### 2017 COMMERCIAL CONSTRUCTION TOTALS



## 2017 Construction Valuations

	Residential	Commercial
BATH TWP.	\$1,126,096.10	\$162,878.40
BEAVERCREEK CITY	\$17,811,190.19	\$100,334,581.67
BEAVERCREEK TWP.	\$61,405,185.74	\$4,088,101.63
BELLBROOK CITY	\$6,931,858.28	\$1,004,097.20
CAESARSCREEK TWP.	\$1,534,360.29	\$15,000.00
CEDARVILLE TWP.	\$2,872,234.45	-0-
CEDARVILLE, VILLAGE	\$527,644.56	\$2,782,179.20
FAIRBORN CITY	\$25,620,088.00	\$32,436,834.00
JAMESTOWN, VILLAGE	\$424,780.99	\$1,527,695.28
JEFFERSON TWP.	\$1,445,744.26	\$36,500.00
MIAMI TWP.	\$2,451,978.65	\$265,486.00
NEW JASPER TWP.	\$2,207,208.58	-0-
ROSS TWP.	\$807,053.60	-0-
SILVERCREEK TWP.	\$1,111,525.26	\$3,650,628.00
SPRING VALLEY, VILLAGE	\$49,817.20	\$5,000.00
SPRING VALLEY TWP.	\$2,644,483.03	\$26,500.00
SUGARCREEK TWP.	\$31,196,735.09	\$46,457,672.26
XENIA CITY	\$14,768,550.27	\$12,167,951.33
XENIA TWP.	\$3,092,433.75	\$6,338,519.75
YELLOW SPRINGS, VILLAGE	\$3,343,747.36	\$1,788,259.32
WRIGHT STATE UNIVERSITY		\$ 1,839,913.89
WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB (2016) -	\$ 1,513,291.00	\$ 73,772,437.00

## Central State University



Central State University was named the **Top Historically Black College of 2017**. This award is given by Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Digest, which is a national publication. Central State was selected from around 175 nominations from HBCU colleges and universities across the County. The award was presented to Central State at the HBCU Award ceremony in Washington D.C. This distinction points out excellence in academics, student activities, athletics, and leadership at America's HBCUs. The award was received due to the committed dedication of Central State's faculty, students, alumni, and the board of trustees. Under the leadership of the President, Dr. Cynthia Jackson-Hammond, the University received this award in recognition of their commitment and mission to provide a quality academic collegiate experience to the students they serve. President Jackson-Hammond was also named Female President of the Year by HBCU Digest in 2016.





## Cedarville-Greene County Career Center FFA Chapter



The Cedarville-Greene County Career Center (GCCC) FFA Chapter received one of the highest awards that the National FFA can bestow on a chapter at the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis. They were named a "**Two-Star, Gold-Rated Chapter**," which is given to less than one percent of all FFA chapters. This is the first time the Cedarville/GCCC FFA Team has obtained this high honor. The award is based on chapter performance such as community service, growing leaders, building communities, and strengthening agriculture. The chapter must have successfully planned and conducted twenty events in their community, partnered with local organizations, and shown an impact in their school. Katrina Swinehart, FFA Advisor and agriculture teacher at Cedarville High School and Greene County Career Center, leads this exceptional group of students.



## Department of Development Plans and Goals for 2018

### 2018 Goals

- Extend utilities to the Greene County - Lewis A. Jackson Regional Airport for catalyzing airport development.
- Invite collaboration from community partners for Business Retention and Expansion efforts.
- Partner with State, County, and municipal Economic Development organizations to present a cohesive team for business attraction efforts.
- Refine promotional and marketing strategies for attracting businesses to Greene County.
- Continue assisting municipalities, non-profits, and residents through the Community Development Block Grant and Community Housing Impact and Preservation programs.





## Greene County Community Improvement Corporation (CIC)

### Mission Statement

It is the objective of Greene County Community Improvement Corporation is to promote the health, safety, morals, and general welfare of its inhabitants.

### Overview

The Greene County CIC is a non-profit organization established under section 1702.04 of the Ohio Revised Code and as provided in Sections 1724.01 to 1724.09 for the sole purpose of advancing, encouraging, and promoting the industrial, economic, commercial, and civic development of Greene County. A CIC may be designated by a county, one or more townships, one or more municipal corporations, two or more adjoining counties, or any combination of the foregoing to act as its agent or representative. The Greene County CIC is the designated agency for the industrial, commercial, research and distribution development in Greene County. The Greene County CIC meets bi-monthly and its membership is made up of the County Commissioners, the County Administrator, and at-large members from the community. The CIC also forms committees focused on Defense & Intelligence, Labor & Education, Business Retention & Expansion, and Marketing to advance the mission of the County.

### Members

President, John Finlay	Vice President, Joe Harkleroad
Brandon Huddleson	Tom Koogler
Bob Glaser	Bart Sheridan
Alan Anderson	Donerik Black
Deb Keller	Theresa Felder
Michael Imhoff	

### Meetings

Meetings are scheduled for the following dates in 2018:

May 10, July 12, September 13, and November 8. All meetings are held at 9:30 am, at 35 Greene Street in Xenia. Dates and locations are subject to change. Please call (937) 562-5007 if you would like to attend.

## Sasha Taylor

Sasha Taylor, teacher of Physical Education at Bell Creek Intermediate School, was selected as the **SHAPE Midwest Teacher of the Year**.

This award is presented by the Society of Health and Physical Educators (SHAPE) America.

This award recognizes outstanding teachers in adapted physical education, dance, health, and physical education at both the district and national levels. Sasha was

previously named state Teacher of the Year by the Ohio Association of Health, PE, Recreation and Dance, making her a candidate for the SHAPE Midwest Teacher of the Year award. Over the past 22 years at Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Schools, Sasha has taught physical education to students from kindergarten through high school. She has been a teacher at Bell Creek Intermediate, serving grades 3-5, for the past ten years. Sasha has also organized many fun activities at Bell Creek that include Before School Clubs, Sports Stacking World Record Day, Run/Walk, Dash for Pink, Jump Rope for Heart, Field Day, and the 4th Grade Parent Show.



## Brigadier General Paul R. Cooper



In 2017, Brigadier General Paul R. Cooper received the **Ford Oval of Honor Award**, sponsored by Ford Motor Company, which recognizes the common people among us willing to step forward to serve our county. Brigadier General Paul R. Cooper's patriotism, passion, and commitment to his country and community are among the many reasons for this recognition. Brig. Gen. Cooper retired in 2002 as commander of the Air Force Reserve's

445th Airlift Wing, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base (WPAFB), after completing almost 35 years of military service with the United States Air Force and the Air Force Reserve. He is also a retired GS-15 Civil Servant Air Reserve Technician. Brig. Gen. Cooper's impressive years of service include positions as wing commander, group commander, regional support group commander, squadron commander, and the installation commander at two Air Force Reserve bases and the NATO base in Bosnia. He has also held a variety of key staff positions including Chief of Staff at two numbered air forces. Brig. Gen. Cooper commanded a composite C-130 unit that deployed to the Middle East for six months after being recalled to active duty during Operation Desert Storm. He was selected to return to extended active duty in 1996 to command Tuzla NATO Air Base in Bosnia.

## Mary Graves

After having been in Ohio for several years, the Graves family moved to Bellbrook in 1966, and Mary knew Bellbrook was home as soon as they settled there. Mary began her philanthropic career as a volunteer on the first Bellbrook Park and Recreation Board in 1971. She then became involved with Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Schools where she served on the Board of Education for 18 years. In addition, Mary volunteered as a Bellbrook Historical Museum Board trustee and spent 20 years on the Sugar Maple Festival Committee. Mary also volunteered on the Blue Jacket Board of Trustees, the Greene County Regional Planning Commission, and the Greene County Park Board.

Mary returned to the workforce in 1988 as an Administrative Assistant and Corporate Secretary at Health Care Industries Corp. She has since worked there for 30 years helping to coordinate the corporate office with the company owned nursing homes.

In addition to her volunteer and work services, Mary began a public service career in 1994 as a Bellbrook City Council Member. Mary was elected Mayor of Bellbrook in 1996 and served in this capacity until 2011. As mayor, residents and fellow leaders knew Mary for her responsible, frugal, and dedicated leadership. Mary loved this position working with the wonderful people of Bellbrook and stated, "The leadership in this community is outstanding, from the Council to the City Manager, to all the department heads and their employees." During her mayoral tenure, Mary also served as Past President and Vice President of the Greater Dayton Mayors and Manager Association's Issues Committee, was on the Dayton Area Montgomery-Greene County Mayors and Managers Association, and the National League of Cities Community & Economic Development Policy and Advocacy Committee. Mary is a beloved Bellbrook citizen and public servant whose dedication, distinction, and excellent service has made the City of Bellbrook a better place to shop, work, and reside.

In addition to receiving this year's E.J. Nutter Award, Mary has received many other awards for her service over the years including:

- 1979 Bellbrook Citizen of the Year
- 1981 Citizen of the Year of Suburban South
- 2004 Greene County Women's Hall of Fame inductee

## 2018 E.J. Nutter Award Winner

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### Mary Graves



The recipient of the **2018 E.J. Nutter Award** is Mary Graves of Bellbrook. The purpose of this award is to honor and recognize persons who have distinguished themselves and brought benefit to Greene County while keeping in line with the E.J. Nutter tradition.

Mary was born south of Buffalo in South Glens Falls, New York, where she attended South Glens Falls High School. She was one of the first members inducted into the National Honor

Society. After high school, Mary attended and graduated from Alfred University on an academic scholarship. In college, she served as secretary of the student government while majoring in Economics and Psychology.

Mary also met George "Bud" Graves Jr. at Alfred University, and the two were married in 1960. After college graduation and marriage, Mary went to work for the New York Bell Telephone Company. This job was perfect for her because Mary has a caring attitude, loves people, and likes to talk. Mary and Bud then moved to Ohio in 1963 where they started their family, and Mary became a stay-at-home mom. The couple has three children: Connie, Terry, and Mike. Mary has previously referred to motherhood "as the best job of my career."

As a result of his illustrious career, Brig. Gen. Cooper is a command pilot with over 12,000 flying hours in jet aircraft. His numerous decorations include the following:

- Eight-time leader and winner of the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award (including one with "V" device)
- Air Force Distinguished Service Medal
- Three Legions of Merit
- The Bronze Star
- Three Air Medals

In his personal life, Brig. Gen. Cooper recently completed a Master's Degree in aviation history, volunteers extensively at the National Museum of the Air Force, and served on councils at the national level for the Air Force Association and the Reserve Officers Association. He also serves as past President of the University of Dayton Senior Life Long Learning Institute as well as on the Board of Managers of the Air Force Museum Foundation.





## Mike & Dylan Chard



The father-son duo of Mike and Dylan Chard won the **5.2-mile Men's K-2 Recreation Division** at the Ohio Canoe & Kayak Championships on July 29, 2017. This state

rowing competition took place on the Lower Grand River near Fairfield, Ohio. Mike and Dylan won first place with an impressive time of 1 hour, 33 minutes and 58 seconds, and Dylan likely became the first Down Syndrome rower to claim an Ohio rowing title in an open able-bodied racing class. Dylan initially approached his dad about competing with him and then completed a workout regimen consisting of weight training, cardio exercises, and boat time twice a week. Dylan would row 6,000-11,000 strokes at a time in a recreation level cadence during training. With Dylan's drive, he and his dad never stopped pursuing this state title.



There were strong wind warnings on the day of the race, and the course had them paddling upstream into the wind. In fact, several boats actually capsized during the race. With the rough waters and wind conditions, it was estimated Mike and Dylan rowed approximately 11,500 strokes during the competition, which is equivalent to roughly two strokes per second. Mike Chard is an accomplished five times sports winner himself but stated, "Winning this with my son was the most special win of them all." The Chards were sponsored by Great Miami Outfitters of Miamisburg and the SweetWater Brewing Company, an Atlanta-based company that donated part of its sales toward cleaning up parts of Lake Erie.

